

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Miodunski et al.

Serial No.: -- Examiner: Nowlin, April A.

Filed: -- Group Art Unit: 2876

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SECURELY STORING AND  
CONTROLLING THE DISPENSING OF A PAYOUT

Mail Stop New Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is filed in conjunction with the attached continuation application.

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Claims 1-105 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 10-12, 16-25, 32-39, 41-43, 45, 49-54, 58-70, 74-75, and 77-105 have been amended for clarification purposes only. No claims have been added. No claims have been deleted. Applicant respectfully contends that the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention is patentably distinct over the prior art.